

DETAILED ACTION

Information Disclosure Statement

The information disclosure statement (IDS) submitted on 7/17/08 and 7/25/08 was filed after the mailing date of the Notice of Allowance on 4/17/08. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 3-6, 17-19, 25-28, 38, and 41-43 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Applicants' claims are directed to wireless roaming in a computer network which may be handled through a solution provided on one or more switches in the network. A roam request sent by a switch corresponding to the user's new location may be received by the other switches in the network. If the user is known to any of these switches, then they may execute steps to accommodate the roaming. The tasks performed may vary based on whether the roaming is on layer 2 or layer 3, whether the switch is a home agent for the client, and/or whether the switch already corresponds to the user's new location.

Applicants Independent Claims 3, 25, and 38 each recite, *inter alia*, discovering if the first switch is the same as the second switch by determining if the roam request received by the first switch was also sent by the first switch; performing said

Art Unit: 2617

determining, removing, and tunneling only if the first switch is not the same as the second switch; setting the first switch as the foreign agent if the first switch is the same as the second switch; and updating a virtual network tag corresponding to the client in a data structure controlled by the first switch if the first switch is the same as the second switch. These steps, in combination with the remaining steps, are neither taught nor suggested by the prior art. In addition, the computer readable medium as recited in claim 38 should be referred to field programmable gate arrays (FPGAs), application specific integrated circuits (ASICs) in accordance with page 13 of the specification. Accordingly, Applicants claims are allowed for these reasons and for the reasons recited in Applicants arguments (6/29/07 and 11/14/08).

Applicants Independent Claim 17 recites, *inter alia*, a first switch second switch identical discoverer coupled to said first switch home agent determiner, said client information remover, and said second switch traffic tunneler; a first switch foreign agent setter coupled to said first switch second switch identical discoverer; and a virtual network tag updater coupled to said first switch foreign agent setter. Applicants claim 17, comprise a particular combination of elements, which are neither taught nor suggested by the prior art. Accordingly, Applicants claims are allowed for these reasons and for the reasons recited in Applicants arguments (6/29/07 and 11/14/08).

Applicants Independent Claim 41 recites, *inter alia*, an ascertainment configured to determine, if the roaming client is known to the switch, whether or not the roaming client is conducting layer 3 roaming; an identical discoverer configured to determine, if the roaming client is determined to be conducting layer 3 roaming, whether the roam

Art Unit: 2617

request was sent by the switch or by another switch; a foreign agent setter configured to set the switch as a foreign agent if the roaming client is determined to be conducting layer 3 roaming and roam request was sent by the switch. These steps, in combination with the remaining steps, are neither taught nor suggested by the prior art. Accordingly, Applicants claims are allowed for these reasons and for the reasons recited in Applicants arguments (6/29/07 and 11/14/08).

Applicants Independent Claim 42 recites, *inter alia*, if the roaming client is known to the receiving switch, determining if the roaming client is conducting layer 3 roaming; if the roaming client is conducting layer 3 roaming, determining whether the roam request was sent by the receiving switch; if the roaming client is conducting layer 3 roaming and the roam request was sent by the receiving switch, setting the receiving switch to be a foreign agent of the roaming client. These steps, in combination with the remaining steps, are neither taught nor suggested by the prior art. Accordingly, Applicants claims are allowed for these reasons and for the reasons recited in Applicants arguments (6/29/07 and 11/14/08).

Applicants Independent Claim 43 recites, *inter alia*, a first switch second switch identical discoverer coupled to said first switch home agent determiner, said client information remover, and said second switch traffic tunneler; a first switch foreign agent setter coupled to said first switch second switch identical discoverer; and a virtual network tag updater coupled to said first switch foreign agent setter. Applicants claim 43, comprise a particular combination of elements, which are neither taught nor

Art Unit: 2617

suggested by the prior art. Accordingly, Applicants claims are allowed for these reasons and for the reasons recited in Applicants arguments (6/29/07 and 11/14/08).

Claims 4-6, 18-19, and 26-28 are allowed as being dependent on the Allowed Independent claims 3, 17, 25, 38, and 41-43.

Conclusion

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to WESLEY L. KIM whose telephone number is (571)272-7867. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, George Eng can be reached on 571-272-7495. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 2617

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/George Eng/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2617

/Wesley L Kim/
Examiner, Art Unit 2617